

CNC April 29, 2013 Meeting Minutes

District Council representatives in attendance: Phil Shack, (North District and CNC Chair); Chris Leman, (Lake Union District and CNC Budget Committee Co-Chair); Laine Ross, (Downtown District and CNC Neighborhood Matching Fund Committee Chair); Irene Wall, (Northwest District Council and Neighborhood Planning Committee Chair); Tony Provine, (Northeast District); Jody Grage, (Ballard District Council and CNC Secretary); Andrew Taylor and Janis Maloney (East District); Chas Redmond, (Southwest District); Lauren Balter, (Magnolia/QA District Council); Alexis Gallegos, (Greater Duwamish District Council)

Guests: Patricia Lopez, James Bush, Bernie Matsuno (DON), Tod Rodman, Morgan Junction neighborhood

Agenda and Meeting Minutes Approval

Agenda was approved with change to move fast track approval process item ahead of the committee reports. April meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Bernie Matsuno/James Bush

Bernie provided copies of the 2012 DON annual report and new DON brochure to CNC members. CNC secretary asked if in the future if CNC wrote up a piece, it could be included in the next brochure. Bernie stated that could be done. CNC member stated that CNC's role in the NMF large project recommendation process was not noted. Bernie stated that comments/requests could be sent to Lois Maag.

Bernie stated that city departments are being asked to identify budget savings for 2013/14, even though revenue is up. However, uncertainties in the state budget, etc remain. Cuts will probably not be drastic. CNC member stated she would like to see city budget revised to give more funding to DON. Would like to see DON act as facilitator in meetings between community and Woodland Park Zoo. CNC chair stated they could advocate for DON in budget. CNC member asked for list of adds the department would like to see so CNC/district councils could advocate for.

James Bush reminded CNC that the PACE application process is open and to forward information on applying to potential applicants. Program will be accepting 26 students this year. Application is available online. CNC member stated he would like to see some leadership trainings/information available to larger audience online. James stated this is a challenge, but could look at providing some things on the web this year.

Bridge to Beach clean-up was last week in Southeast. Would like to see this type of activity duplicated throughout the city.

In North District, Thomas Whittemore is working on IDT around Little Brook issues in Lake City.

Central Area: 23rd Ave Act workshop meeting with large group from neighborhood, developers, etc around planning.

CNC Secretary stated it would be good to have write-ups of projects with information that groups throughout the city could use. Bernie stated that Lois Maag is working on a format that community could use for this type of write-up. James stated that districts could submit items to be used on the DON blog as well.

Bernie stated she and James have been meeting informally with District Council chairs. CNC member stated he would like to see her attend full district council meetings. Bernie stated these meetings are very informal and might not translate easily to a full meeting; however, she is happy to attend district council meetings if invited.

CNC member asked what role DON would have in future neighborhood planning efforts. DPD seems to have taken over lead role. Bernie stated outreach role DON is now playing makes sense, as DON is good at outreach and does not have planners on staff. Attendance and diversity at 23rd Ave meeting was outcome of DPD/DON going door to door to get people out. Could be topic of future CNC meeting.

NMF Nominations to CRT and DCRT/Patricia Lopez

Full slate was provided to CNC. All positions are filled. CNC voted unanimously to approve the nominees.

Social Media and the CNC/Lauren Balter

Can reach a different audience than is currently being reached and allows for 2-way conversation. CNC member stated concern that social media allowed for lots of discussion, but no action. CNC member stated Facebook would cut down on multiple back and forth e-mails. Some CNC members had issues with having to have a personal FB account. CNC member stated could use Google Plus in the same way. CNC member stated could strengthen CNC by showing community is behind them; however, would also be opponents/detractors. Facebook does not allow postings to be simultaneously sent as e-mails. Lauren and Alexis agreed to take on the task of creating the page. CNC voted, with one abstention to proceed with development of the page.

CNC Fast Track Approval Process

Proposal had been created previously by CNC in response to need for fast turn-around on issues related to budget cuts. CNC member pointed out that current draft proposal would actually slow process down. CNC member stated that CNC representatives should forward agenda/minutes to full district council as soon as they become available to speed up feedback. CNC member stated that current CNC bylaws should be followed. CNC member stated that by-laws should state that simple majority would rule; not by consensus. Transit communities letter was good example of decision making by consensus. Not all districts voted in favor. Districts have asked for a schedule of when CNC votes would occur; however, many issues come up for votes that do not fall on a regular schedule. Committees could go to districts and ask for their top three priorities for CNC to discuss/act on the following year. Issue around district council bylaws not all giving voting discretion to CNC rep.

Mayoral Election Forum

Holding three dates at Bertha Knight Landes: June 11, 12 and 26. CM Godden is sponsoring the room. Potential conflicts: NE District Council forum scheduled for the 11th. Three district councils meet on the 26th and there is also a Mariner's game. Forum would be co-sponsored by CNC and District Councils. Will need to get a moderator and ask Seattle Channel to film. CNC Chair could also moderate. CNC voted to hold the forum on June 26.

CNC Committee Reports

Neighborhood Matching Fund Committee/Laine Ross, Chas Redmond

Received response from DON in regard to CNC letter regarding proposed changes to NMF Large Project process. Committee met on April 9 and discussed various other funding models including broader review of NMF Large process. Could eliminate open house presentations entirely. Individual district councils can send their own letters with concerns to DON. Higher level issue is widening disconnect between DON and CNC. Could be a question for Mayoral candidates.

Neighborhood Planning Committee/Irene Wall

PLUS committee met last week. Amended Transit Communities legislation moved out of committee. Issues: stakeholder involvement comes too late; boundary stretching once boundaries have been defined; quality of transit experience is not addressed. Growth targets are also not addressed. Transit capacity is not tied to the growth targets. City Council meets May 13 to vote. CNC chair advised sending a bulleted list of concerns to district councils.

Budget Committee/Chris Leman/Bill Bradburd

Shared a copy of budget letter sent last year. Requested CNC members take to their district councils for comment/input. Encourage district councils to also send their own letters with budget priorities. Need to approve any CNC letter by June meeting at the latest. Next CNC budget committee meeting is May 8; send comments if you have before then as well.